

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

 International application No.  
**PCT/AU00/00352**

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| <b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b>   |  |  |
| Int. Cl. <sup>7</sup> : B01D 63/04, 61/08, 61/18   |  |  |
| According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC  |  |  |
| <b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b>  |  |  |
| Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)<br>B01D 63/04, 61/08, 61/18  |  |  |
| Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched<br>AU: IPC AS ABOVE  |  |  |
| Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)<br>DWPI   |  |  |
| <b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>  |  |  |
| Category*  | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No.  |
| X  | WO,A,9116124 (MEMTEC LIMITED) 31 October 1991<br>See whole document                | (1-4),(14-18)  |
| X  | US,A,5389260 (HEMP et al) 14 February 1995<br>See whole document                   | (1-4),(11-16)  |
| A  | WO,A,9104783 (MEMTEC LIMITED) 18 April 1991  |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex  |  |  |
| * Special categories of cited documents:<br>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance<br>"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date<br>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)<br>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means<br>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed<br>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention<br>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone<br>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art<br>"&" document member of the same patent family |  |  |
| Date of the actual completion of the international search<br><b>5 May 2000</b>   |  | Date of mailing of the international search report<br><b>24 MAY 2000</b>     |
| Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU<br>AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE<br>PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA<br>E-mail address: pct@ipaustalia.gov.au<br>Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929   |  | Authorized officer<br><br><b>M.R. OLLEY</b><br>Telephone No : (02) 6283 2143 |

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| C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT |  |                       |
|---|--|-----------------------|
| Category*   | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
| A   | WO,A,8807398 (GOLDSMITH) 6 October 1988  |                       |

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**  
Information on patent family members

International application No.  
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This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

| Patent Document Cited in Search Report |         |      |          | Patent Family Member |         |    |         |
|--|---------|------|----------|----------------------|---------|----|---------|
| WO                                     | 9116124 | AU   | 77557/91 | CA                   | 2080344 | EP | 525096  |
|  |         | US   | 5405528  |                      |         |    |         |
| US                                     | 5389260 | NONE |          |                      |         |    |         |
| WO                                     | 9104783 | AU   | 64492/90 | CA                   | 2042405 | EP | 447513  |
|  |         | US   | 5194149  |                      |         |    |         |
| WO                                     | 8807398 | US   | 4781831  | EP                   | 310632  | US | 5009781 |
|  |         | US   | 5108601  | EP                   | 396684  | WO | 9003831 |
| END OF ANNEX                           |         |      |          |                      |         |    |         |